



Avatud Eesti Fond
Open Estonia Foundation



International Conference Dedicated to the 30th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall

Nordic Hotel Forum and Tallinn Writers' House
November 8-9, 2019

Day 1. November 8, Nordic Hotel Forum (Viru Väljak 3)

- 12:30** Registration and welcome coffee
- 13:00** Welcome speech by **H.E. Ms. Christiane Constanze Hohmann**, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany
- Short welcome words by organizers of the event: **Elisabeth Bauer** (Konrad Adenauer Stiftung), **Mall Hellam** (Open Estonia Foundation), **Sergei Metlev** (Estonian Institute of Historical Memory)
- 13:15-13:30** Opening remarks by **Toomas Hendrik Ilves**, President of Estonia 2006-2016, distinguished Visiting Fellow at the Hoover Institution, Stanford University, USA
- 13:30 – 15:00** **History repeating: lessons to be learned**
The consequences of communist dictatorship will be observed to highlight the slow and difficult process of constructing a free civic society and democratic institutions after a political system that had made a considerable effort to block free initiative and participation, causing severe cultural changes in societies. The discussion makes the events of 1980s-1990s relevant today and connects them to the values and issues of the 21st century.

Dr. Anna Kaminsky, managing director of the Bundesstiftung Aufarbeitung, the Federal Foundation for the Reappraisal of the SED-Dictatorship in Eastern Germany
Wolfgang Templin, publicist and former politician, co-founder of the Federal Foundation for the Reconciliation of the SED Dictatorship
Raivo Vare, businessman and statesman, Minister of State (1990-1992)

Moderator: Evelyn Kaldoja, Chief Editor of the foreign news section of Postimees, Estonian largest daily newspaper

15:00 – 15:30 Coffee and snacks

15:30 – 17:00 **The best way to forecast future: create it!**

Cooperation and engagement should be the keywords to characterize ways to overcome the wall that has been created between today's politicians and policy makers and the younger generation. „Do not decide about us without us“, are some wise words to be kept in mind.

Together, we must find ways to combat climate change, face the challenges that come along with the rapid development of technology and the issues affected by migration (or the lack of it) and aging population of the Western world. What would be effective models for democracy that is both inclusive and engaging? Could civil society demonstrate a strong leadership here?

Filip Pazderski, Senior Policy Analyst of the Democracy and Civil Society Programme, Poland

Martin Noorkõiv, civic activist and CEO of Domus Dorpatensis Foundation

Merle Maigre, Executive Vice President for Gov. Relations at CybExer Technologies

Moderator: Liisa Past, Chief National Cyber Risk Officer, National Security and Defence Coordination Unit at Government Office, Republic of Estonia

17:00 Reception

XXIII Open Society Forum: Moving Walls.

Day 2. November 9, Tallinn Writers' House (Harju 1)

16:00-16:30 **Welcome coffee**

16:30-18:00 **Moving Walls: Yesterday is history, tomorrow is a mystery**

The current needs in Western liberal democracies worldwide are similar and seek answers to common questions, affiliated with the rise of populism and far-right parties: how to reclaim back nationalism from populists and unite a strong nation state with values of openness and cooperation? Extremist movements and political forces pave way for new dictatorships.

For Baltic countries, opening up came together with a strong wave of nationalism and considering we are small countries, nationalism is in fact one of the cornerstones of our existence. How to embrace the bright side of nationalism again? Is there a chance to create a new credible and positive narrative on liberal democracy and its values?

Toomas Hendrik Ilves, President of Estonia 2006-2016, distinguished Visiting Fellow at the Hoover Institution, Stanford University, USA

Timothy Snyder, historian and author, Richard C. Levin Professor of History at Yale University and a permanent fellow at the Institute for Human Sciences in Vienna

Moderator: Heather Grabbe, Director of the Open Society European Policy Institute

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